

August 2015



## From the Director...



Dear Friends of LIS,

This summer, we are very pleased to introduce to you three new full-time members of our LIS Staff: **Fr. Eddie Samaniego, SJ**; **Mr. Bryce Deline, SJ**; and **Mr. Raymond Uribe**. We welcome them to our vibrant and growing ministries and we encourage you to get

to know them, not only by reading their short bios (below and on our website) but also by calling or dropping by our office and introducing yourself personally, if possible.

As we approach the Fall, we are also already preparing for a wide range of **new and expanded program offerings**.

Our Spanish-language **Desafío** program has already begun, with two different groups this year: one here at LIS and the other at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Santa Ana. The **Bio-Spiritual Focusing** program continues to expand, with new offerings designed to help families and children. Many people are preparing to experience the **Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life** this year, not only in English and Spanish, but also in Korean and Chinese!

Our popular **spirituality courses** are still accepting new registrations, both in English (Ignatian Spiritual Formation Program) and in Spanish (*Programa de Formación Espiritual Ignaciana*). New this year are **two series of biblical**

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### Our Mission

In the Ignatian tradition, Loyola Institute for Spirituality accompanies people on their journey toward a life-giving relationship with God, self, and others, through experiential formation to help transform the world.

The values of collaboration, ecumenism and cultural diversity guide the programs and services of Loyola Institute for Spirituality

### LIS & Amazon

Anything you buy through our Amazon store provides LIS a rebate of 4% to 8% of the purchase price.

You can use the LIS Amazon store to purchase anything available on Amazon, not just the books we recommend.

**courses**, one here at LIS and one in Los Angeles at Mount Saint Mary's University, as well as a new "Catholic Bible Institute" in the Diocese of Tucson, Arizona! All of these offerings are designed to help you not only to understand the Bible better but also to encounter Jesus more closely.

**Which of these programs is best for you?** We invite you to read the short articles below, find more information on our website, and consider how God is calling you to continue your spiritual growth. Please let us know at any time how best we can serve you.

Peace and blessings to you, now and throughout the new program year!

Fr. Felix Just, S.J.  
Executive Director of LIS

<http://astore.amazon.com/ignatian-20>



## Meet the New Staff Members

### Rev. Eduardo A. Samaniego, S.J.

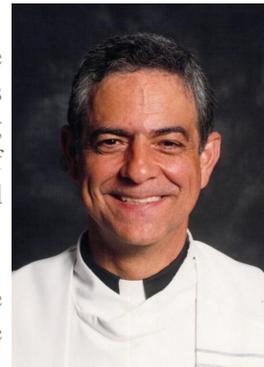
Fr. Eddie was born on June 5, 1950, the oldest of nine children, five boys and four girls. He attended Loyola High School in Los Angeles and graduated with honors. He received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1972 from USC, where he also played basketball, was a member of Sigma Nu Fraternity, and received the honors of Blue Key and Skull and Dagger honorary fraternities.

In 1975 he received a secondary-education credential from CSULA. He then taught two years in public junior high schools followed by three years at Loyola High School in Los Angeles.

He entered the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) on September 1, 1980, took vows in August of 1982, and went to Madrid, Spain, to study Philosophy for two years. He then returned to Loyola High School as a teacher, coach, counselor, and retreat organizer.

Fr. Eddie attended the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, CA for four years. While there he finished Masters degrees in Divinity and Theology and also completed a Masters in Private School Administration through the ICEL Program of the University of San Francisco

Fr. Eddie was ordained to the priesthood on June 1, 1990, and has spent most of his ordained life in parish work especially as pastor of some Jesuit parishes in San Diego, San Jose, and Los Angeles. He joins the LIS Staff in September 2015.



### Mr. A. Bryce Deline, S.J.

Bryce was born and raised in Tacoma, Washington. After attending high school at Bellarmine Prep, he found himself disillusioned with and apathetic towards college, so he dropped out after one year. Instead, he



started working and has had a variety of life experiences, from being a semi-skilled laborer/foreman to opening and operating a small personal training studio with a friend. He understood relatively quickly, though, that he could not continue in the direction he was going, as it wasn't ever going to be enough for him. This realization moved him to enter the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in 2009, and his experience of the 30-day retreat, the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, had a radical impact on him.

Almost immediately after making the Exercises, Bryce found himself involved in a variety of spiritual ministries, and he has continued to find consolation through spiritual conversation ever since. He has been gifted with opportunities to speak with men and women from many different walks of life, and has received notable consolation from his time with the homeless, those in prison (both adults and juveniles), the sick, and the elderly. He has also been incredibly blessed to have been under the tutelage of Fr. Joseph Tetlow, SJ, for the last three years, a generous gift he certainly did not deserve!

Bryce has been missioned to work at LIS for two to three years for his "regency," a stage of Jesuit formation.

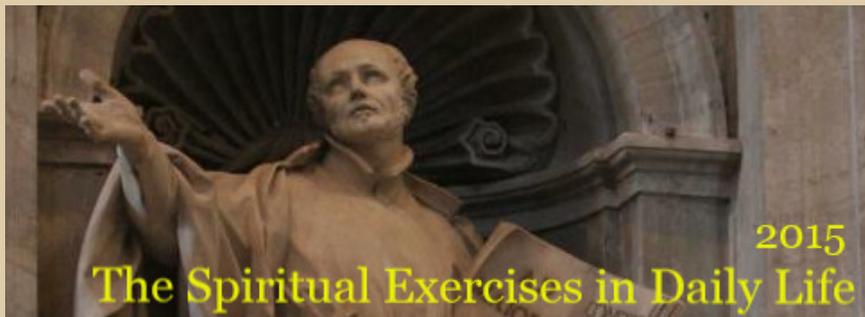
### Mr. Raymond Uribe

Raymond has lived and worked in Southern California for most of his life. He was a seminarian at Saint John's Seminary College, in Camarillo, shortly before it closed. He completed his education at California State University, Fullerton.



For the majority of his professional career, Raymond taught at Servite and Mater Dei High Schools, was youth minister at Saint Boniface, Anaheim, and worked in liturgy and various parish ministry positions. Most recently he worked sales and office administration. He is a parishioner at Holy Family Cathedral, where he works with adult religious education and volunteers for special events. He also assists in caring for homeless persons of Santa Ana.

His blog, "Beholding the Sacred", explores history and theology of architecture and art in sacred settings in the local community. He is currently pursuing further education in Theology and Spanish/English language studies. Outside of work, Raymond's favorite activities include gourmet cooking, music, reading, and learning about Franciscan and Ignatian spirituality.



Don't miss out on this life changing opportunity.  
There is still time to apply!

**Experience the full Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola over a period of nine months. This program consists of the following:**

- Daily scriptural prayer
- Weekly meetings with a personal director
- Monthly evening faith-sharing sessions

For more information, or to schedule an interview, please contact  
Br. Charles Jackson, S.J., 714-997-9587 ext. 24 or [jackson@loyolainstitute.org](mailto:jackson@loyolainstitute.org)

## LIS Biblical Courses

Let LIS help you "fill the gaps" in your understanding of the Sunday Mass Readings. Our team of academic and pastoral teachers offers mini-courses that blend biblical study with practical application for personal reflection, family sharing, and community building.

### **Courses Offered in 2015-2016:**

*The Parables of Jesus: Stranger than You Might Think*

Instructor: Fr. Felix Just, S.J.

Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 2015

*Women in the Old Testament: Models of Faith and Hope*

Instructor: Sr. Christine Hilliard, C.S.J.

Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, 2015

*Dialogue in Gospel Ecology: The World around Us as Garden and Desert*

Instructor: Sr. Nadine McGuinness, C.S.J.

Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 2016

*The Bible and Mass: Experiencing the Liturgy More Deeply*

Instructor: Mr. Randy Lopez, M.T.S.

Feb. 25, March 3, 10, 17, 31, April 7, 2016

*The Acts of the Apostles in the Season of Easter and Pentecost*

Instructors: Fr. Felix Just, S.J., and Mr. Randy Lopez

April 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, 2016

All five courses will be offered on **Thursday evenings, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.**  
at the St. Joseph Center, in Orange, CA

[Please click here for more information](#)

## **Ecclesia: Serving Those Who Serve the Church**

*Preparing for the Year of Luke* - Presented by Fr. Felix Just, S.J.

Pope Francis has referred to the Gospel of Luke as "the Gospel of Mercy." Appropriately for the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the Gospel readings we will hear most Sundays of 2016 are from Luke.

Contemporary Christianity would be startlingly different without Luke's Gospel. We would have far fewer Marian devotions and altered Christmas traditions. We'd be without some very popular hymns and familiar works of art. We might even have a far less inclusive church, with less emphasis on the serving the poor and less awareness of God's mercy.

This series of three workshops will explore Luke's Gospel in depth, preparing for the 2016 Year C of the Lectionary. Each workshop can be taken independently, or all three at reduced cost.

**Workshop Dates:**

August 29, 2015 - *Reading* the Gospel of Luke

October 24, 2015 - *Praying* the Gospel of Luke

January 23, 2016 - *Living* the Gospel of Luke

**Location:**

Donahue Center, Mount Saint Mary's University, Doheny Campus  
(near Downtown LA, on Adams, between Hoover and Figueroa)

[Please visit the MSMU website for more information.](#)

## A Summer Reflection

by Sr. Jeanne Fallon, C.S.J.

In these hot summer days, we try to take a breather from our daily work so we can move at a slower pace and get in touch with the beauty of the world around us. We try to leave the frenzy of our active lives and move into the realm of restful appreciation of our earthly home. It is a graced time when families make an attempt to spend more time together, enjoying the simple pleasures of the beach or a hike in the woods or exploring the wonders in state parks or amazing desert canyons carved out by wind and water.



Taking a vacation or some days of spiritual retreat can offer us the pause that refreshes so we can contemplate the gift of our earthly home and our own way of being in this home. A chance to see the stars, away from glaring city lights, can remind a person of the vast universe in which we dwell and the presence of the Divine in the starry landscape not made by hands. Taking time for retreat can awaken our bodily senses so we can see, with our own eyes, the hand of the Creator at work even now, laboring to bring creation to fulfillment. In such a setting, we can descend into ourselves and meet the Holy One at work within, tapping into the love of God flowing through us and throughout the entire universe. The Risen Christ is alive, pulsating with loving energy, bringing all creation into oneness, all creatures large and small. The heartbeat of God in Christ is reverberating in every part of the world; those who have ears to hear can bow in wonder and reverence.

Yet our common home is in crisis, as Pope Francis has written in his Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'*, Our Mother Earth "now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life. This is why the earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she 'groans in travail' (Rom 8:22)." (par.2)

In a way, we have forgotten who we are, that we are made up of stardust and that we have an obligation to care for our common home, our beautiful blue planet. Pope Francis is challenging the whole human community to pull together to find ways to curb the destruction and to care for our common home. We are all called to begin a new dialogue about the environmental crisis. His plea is leading a worldwide ecological movement when he says, "Everyone's talents and involvement are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of God's creation." (par. 14)

Perhaps a first step is to become aware of the ecological crisis by reading Pope Francis' encyclical letter. In Chapter One he speaks of Pollution and Climate Change. In my 20 years as a missionary in the Bougainville Diocese of Papua New Guinea, we ministered on the far flung islands called Carterets. Now they are submerged by the rising waters and all the people had to migrate 90 miles south to the island of Bougainville. The island home of their ancestors is no more. How many other Pacific islands or coastlines around the world are being taken by the rising waters?

May we pause to consider what is happening to our environment and work to find ways to help restore the beautiful home that earth is destined to become. When Jesus of Nazareth walked this earth, he "lived in harmony with creation, and others were amazed: 'What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?' (Matt 8:27)" (98) May we, as followers of Jesus and members of the human community, appreciate our common home and offer her the care and protection she deserves.

Loyola Institute for Spirituality  
480 S. Batavia Street, Orange, CA 92868  
714-997-9587  
office@loyolainstitute.org

## Become a Member of LIS:

*LIS Membership is open to anyone  
who wants to support our vital ministries.*

Members not only receive certain benefits, but also provide much-needed financial support on a more stable and regular basis. We have established several categories of LIS Membership, which are renewable annually, on a calendar-year basis:

- **Regular Members** - those who donate **\$100 or more** within a calendar year
- **Supporting Members** - those who donate **\$250 or more** within a calendar year
- **Major Donors** - those who donate **\$500 or more** within a calendar year:
  - Manresa Circle - min. \$500
  - Peter Faber Circle - min. \$1,000
  - Francis Xavier Circle - min. \$2,500
  - Ignatius Loyola Circle - min. \$5,000
  - Magis Circle - min. \$10,000
- **Sustaining Members** - those who pledge to donate on a **monthly or quarterly basis**
  - Your total annual donations qualify you as a regular member, supporting member, or member of one of the Major Donor Circles.

#### Membership Benefits include:

- **Gifts of Appreciation** - religious bookmarks, calendars, books, pins, and other items
- **Invitations to Special Events** - annual BBQ, Ignatius Day Mass, Open House
- **Discounts on LIS Programs** - members-only rates on select courses and events
- **Public Recognition** - listing on LIS website and in the "Hearts on Fire" program
- **Personal Satisfaction** - knowing that you are helping LIS ministries to grow

#### How Your Membership Donation Helps LIS:

- Scholarships for deserving people
- Retreats for homeless persons
- Leadership training for young adults
- Expanded programs in Spanish and several Asian languages
- Spiritual direction for individuals
- New staff to help serve more people

With your help, we will be able to meet growing needs fueled by a deep spiritual hunger that so many people are experiencing today. Our program fees are kept as low as possible, and we offer scholarships whenever needed and possible. We are committed to remaining affordable and accessible for all people, especially in these difficult times.

**Become a Member of LIS now.**

**For more information, please see our website ([www.loyolainstitute.org](http://www.loyolainstitute.org))  
or call the LIS office at 714-997-9587.**

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